UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/46/161
17 March 1992

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 77 (f)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/46/645/Add.7)]

46/161. Combating desertification and drought

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/172 of 19 December 1977, by which it approved the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, 1/ and all its subsequent resolutions on the subject,

Recalling also its resolutions 44/228 of 22 December 1989, on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and 45/212 of 21 December 1990, on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind, as well as its decision 44/437 of 19 December 1989, on countries stricken by desertification and drought in Africa,

Concerned at the seriousness of the problem of drought and desertification in many regions, and noting the relevance of the experiences of various countries in combating land degradation in an integrated manner,

1. Reaffirms its resolutions 44/172 A and B of 19 December 1989, concerning implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, in which the General Assembly invited the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, through its Preparatory Committee, to accord high priority to desertification control;

1/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Desertification, Nairobi, 29 August-9 September 1977 (A/CONF.74/36), chap. I.

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2. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification in 1989-1990, including its implementation in the Sudano-Sahelian region, 2/ and requests the Secretary-General to forward that report, as well as the report requested by the Assembly in paragraph 7 of its resolution 44/172 A, 3/ to the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at its fourth session;

3. Endorses decisions 16/22 A to E of 31 May 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme 4/ and decision 91/41 of 25 June 1991 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme; 5/

4. Also endorses decision 3/16 of 4 September 1991 of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, 6/ in which the Committee requested the Secretary-General of the Conference to submit to the Committee at its fourth session a report on the financial, technical and institutional needs to implement effectively and efficiently the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification control;

5. Welcomes the priority that will be given to the consideration of desertification by the Preparatory Committee at its fourth session;

6. Welcomes the efforts to combat desertification and drought undertaken by African subregional organizations, such as the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, the Ministerial Conference for a joint policy to combat desertification and the Arab Maghreb Union, and the setting up of the Sahel and Sahara observatory;

7. Also welcomes the continued and substantial technical and financial assistance by the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office to the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region at the national and regional level in their preparations for the Conference, and encourages the Office to continue and intensify its assistance in that area;

8. Invites the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, within the framework of United Nations Development Programme round tables and/or the World Bank consultative group, to assist the Governments of the countries of the Sudano-Sahelian region in organizing sectoral/thematic round tables in order to mobilize adequate resources for the protection and sound management of natural resources to arrest and reverse the process of desertification;

2/ A/46/380-E/1991/142.

3/ A/46/157-E/1991/55.

4/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/46/25), annex.

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 13 (E/1991/34), annex I.

6/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 48 (A/46/48), vol. II, annex I.

9. Requests the Secretary-General, in light of the decisions of the Conference regarding desertification and drought, to highlight any requirements necessary to implement those decisions in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

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Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/46/162
17 March 1992

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 77 (g)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/46/645/Add.8)]

46/162. Living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, 1/ and the relevant recommendations for national action adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 2/

Recalling also its resolution 44/174 of 19 December 1989,

Taking into account the intifadah of the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation, including Israeli economic and social policies and practices,

Gravely alarmed by the continuation of the Israeli settlement policies in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem, which have been declared illegal and a major obstacle to peace,

1. Takes note of the report annexed to the note by the Secretary-General; 3/

2. Calls for the immediate cessation of the Israeli practices against the Palestinian people, particularly in the economic and social fields;

1/ Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. I.

2/ Ibid., chap. II.

3/ A/46/262-E/1991/95.

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3. Expresses its alarm at the deterioration, as a result of the Israeli occupation, in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967;

4. Affirms that the Israeli occupation is contradictory to the basic requirements for the social and economic development of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory;

5. Rejects the Israeli plans and actions intended to change the demographic composition of the occupied Palestinian territory, in particular the increase and expansion of the Israeli settlements;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to consider ways and means of improving the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory and, pending the exercise of their right to self-determination, to plan for concerted economic and social actions by the United Nations system;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

78th plenary meeting
19 December 1991

UNITED NATIONS **A**

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/46/163
27 March 1992

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 77 (g)

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/46/645/Add.8)]

46/163. Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988, in which it designated the Commission on Human Settlements as the intergovernmental body for coordinating, evaluating and monitoring the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 1/

Recalling also its resolution 44/173 of 19 December 1989, in which it considered the first report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 2/ submitted pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 43/181,

Recognizing that the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 provides a framework for Governments to facilitate adequate shelter for all and that, through shelter and services, the Global Strategy also addresses the issues of alleviation of poverty, improvement of health, participation of women, improvement of the living environment of people and promotion of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the operational focus for promoting the objective of facilitating shelter for all is action at the national level within the framework of national shelter strategies which are integrated with

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 8, addendum (A/43/8/Add.1).

2/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8, addendum (A/44/8/Add.1).

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macroeconomic policies for optimum utilization of natural and human resources and are based on standards that are nationally appropriate and socially acceptable,

Emphasizing also that the adoption of enabling shelter strategies can mobilize resources on a sustainable basis and facilitate access to available resources by all population groups,

Noting that such mobilization of national resources through enabling shelter strategies could partially alleviate economic constraints that affect many countries,

Having considered the second report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 3/

Noting with satisfaction that a number of Governments have initiated or reformulated national shelter strategies, based on the principle of enabling all actors in the shelter sector, and that many other Governments have initiated action on particular components of a national shelter strategy,

Noting also with satisfaction the support given to the implementation of the Global Strategy by donor Governments, international bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Cognizant of the importance of maintaining the momentum already generated at the national and international levels for the implementation of the Global Strategy,

1. Commends Governments which are revising, consolidating, formulating or implementing their national shelter strategies based on the enabling principles of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000;

2. Urges those Governments which have not already initiated action towards formulation of a national shelter strategy based on the enabling principles, or have taken only tentative steps so far, to increase their efforts, using the Guidelines for National Action contained in the Global Strategy, involving governmental, private sector and non-governmental actors in the shelter sector, assuring the participation of men and women and paying special attention to gender issues, in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of national shelter strategies in order to achieve the objective of facilitating shelter for all by the year 2000;

3. Recommends that all Governments adopt a cost-effective system for monitoring progress of national shelter strategies and also adopt, as far as is feasible, guidelines prepared by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

4. Also urges Governments to integrate fully the environmental dimension in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies, following, for example, the synopsis of environmental checkpoints contained in the report of the Executive Director on the significance of human

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3/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8, addendum and corrigendum (A/46/8/Add.1 and Corr.1).

settlements and the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 to the concept to sustainable development; 4/

5. Invites Governments to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in order to facilitate implementation of the Global Strategy;

6. Urges the organizations of the United Nations system, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, and other multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide increased financial and other support to Governments for the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Global Strategy;

7. Adopts the Plan of Action for 1992-1993 for the implementation of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, 5/ and urges all Governments, appropriate United Nations organizations, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to prepare and implement their specific plans of action.

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4/ HS/C/13/6, annex.

5/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8, addendum and corrigendum (A/46/8/Add.1 and Corr.1), sect. III and appendix.